

16348K

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT
RECEIVED

Applicants: G. Gundling, et al.

Group Art No.: 1634

OCT 18 2002

Application No.: 09/492,213

Examiner: B. Sisson

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: January 27, 2000

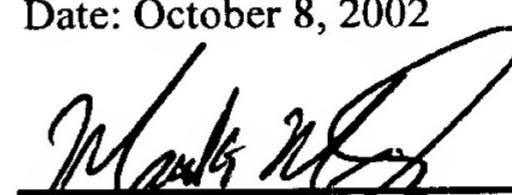
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Title: A METHOD OF REDUCING
CONTAMINATION IN AN ASSAY
VESSEL

Assistant Commissioner for patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket: 6416.US.P1

Date: October 8, 2002

 10/8/02
Matthew Mader Date

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above entitled A METHOD OF REDUCING CONTAMINATION IN AN ASSAY VESSEL are the following:

1. Request for extension of time (in duplicate)
2. Amendment (7 pages)
3. Marked-up version (4 pages)
4. Return Receipt postcard

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional patent application or processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17 as well as any other fees associated with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. **A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.**

Dated: October 8, 2002



ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Telephone: (847) 937-7022
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,
G. Gundling, et al.


David J. Schodin
Registration No. 41,294
Attorney for Applicants



#21
Ansdot C

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

Applicants: G. Gundling, et al.

Group Art No.: 1634

OCT 18 2002

Application No.: 09/492,213

Examiner: B. Sisson

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: January 27, 2000

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the:

Title: A METHOD OF REDUCING
CONTAMINATION IN AN
ASSAY VESSEL

Assistant Commissioner for patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket: 6416.US.P1

Date: October 8, 2002

Matthew Mader

Date

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

AMENDMENTS

In the claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of reducing contamination in a nucleic acid analyzer, the method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) providing a nucleic acid analyzer containing a first sample, wherein the first sample comprises a first nucleic acid that could contaminate a PCR reaction to be performed on a second sample;
 - (b) contacting a first electrically conductive surface and a second electrically conductive surface to a portion of the first sample;